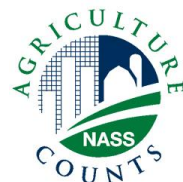


OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Week ending: April 17, 2011
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Weather: Cold and wet conditions throughout most of the week, with a couple of sunny days. Measurable precipitation was again reported by all 43 stations, 17 of those receiving more than an inch. Crescent City reported the most precipitation, with 4.09 total inches, followed by the Tillamook station with 3.96 total inches. Average temperatures were between 38 and 50 degrees, which is around 3 degrees lower than normal (using 1961-1990 normal period). Low temperatures ranged from 12 degrees in Christmas Valley to 35 degrees in Crescent City. High temperatures ranged from 52 degrees in Astoria and Florence to 66 degrees in Hermiston and Ontario.

Field Crops: Tillage, planting and other field work were slow or impractical as cold, wet weather persisted. Even fertilizing and spraying were difficult in Clackamas and Marion counties. Spraying proceeded in Yamhill County grass fields. Grain planting started on select fields in Malheur County.

Vegetables: Vegetable crops were already late going in and could result in late harvest similar to last year. Little planting was done for vegetables in Washington County because it was still too cold and wet.

Fruits and Nuts: Cool, wet weather prevailed across the State for fruit growers. Blueberries were about to bloom and

strawberries had flowers in Lane County. Berry crops were two weeks behind normal growth in Washington County. Fruit trees were in various stages of bloom throughout the Willamette Valley. The lower Hood River Valley reported the following crop development: d'Anjou pear at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 4 to 6); Red Delicious apple at half-inch green to tight cluster (WSU stages 3&4); Bing cherry at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 6&7); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 1-3. Sweet cherry bloom was late in Wasco County.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses reported being busy with their spring starts, but there was not much planting going on. Nurseries shipments have been delayed because of a lack of demand from retailers due to cold and wet weather conditions. Some nurseries were still sorting through winter injury due to cold weather. Bare root starts of fruit, decorative trees and shrubs were underway in Jackson County.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Cold temperatures and wet days have slowed pasture growth across the State. Pastures were being fertilized in Lane County. Livestock were holding well on supplemental feeding in Jackson and Washington counties. Cattle and calves were on pasture in Clackamas County, but caused a lot of damage to grass. Livestock in Jackson County appeared to have a good calf crop.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 04/17/11

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	1	49	50
Subsoil	0	1	56	43

Crop Condition - Week Ending 04/17/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	2	18	70	10
Range and pasture	1	11	29	53	6

Crop Progress - Week Ending 04/17/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Barley planted	58	55	82	72
Barley emerged	48	46	54	47
Spring wheat planted	45	41	90	76
Spring wheat emerged	20	16	55	40
Days suitable for fieldwork	2.8	3.6	4.8	4.6

CLACKAMAS: Another cold wet week, only one day without rain. April's accumulation in the rain gauge by April 15 was six inches at a foothills research farm. No tillage was possible yet anywhere in the County. Even fertilizing and spraying was difficult with many areas having standing and running water. Cattle and calves were on pasture but causing a lot of damage to grass around water troughs, mineral feeders, and through gates. Grass was growing slowly.

CLATSOP/TILLAMOOK: Spring crop planting was delayed due to wet soils. Some made it in the narrow windows but most had not. Vegetable crops were already late going in and could result in late harvest similar to last year. Fruit trees had luckily not bloomed yet and with these frosts, that's good. Frost during bloom would significantly reduce yields.

COLUMBIA: Weather was exceptionally cool and wet. Pasture growth and field work was delayed. Nurseries were still sorting through winter injury from two bouts of very cold weather.

DOUGLAS: Wet cool weather continued to make fieldwork very difficult without damaging soils. Growers were in need of a dry spell to get fungicides on orchards and vineyards. Rainfall improved some pasture conditions but most field crops were in need of sun and drier soil.

JACKSON: With more wet and rainy conditions, it was another bad week to try to do field work. Even hay and pasture grass was not getting a good start. Most all fruit has been pruned. Peaches and apricots were done with bloom, and pears and plums were starting to bloom. There were some cold nights that could have caused some damage. Frost fans were running early Tuesday morning. The mountains were still receiving snow. The garden soils were still too wet to get much done. Green houses have been busy with their spring starts, but there was not much planting going on. Nurseries were busy with bare root starts of fruit and decorative trees and shrubs. With pastures off to a slower than normal start, most livestock were still getting some supplemental feeding. There appeared to be a good crop of baby livestock out with their mothers, including cattle, sheep, and goats. Even though it wasn't the best week for field work, there seemed to be plenty of other work to do.

JOSEPHINE: Temperatures were more moderate this week. Evenings were in the 30-48 degree range, and daytime temperatures were in the 40-60 degree range. Rain was heavy at times with an accumulation of 4 inches for the week. Some farmers were able to fertilize hay fields. Some plowing took place in higher ground. Animals were doing well with plenty of grass for grazers. There was a lot of activity in the nurseries. Some ground is about ready to till. Asparagus started

producing well, and artichokes plants were looking good.

LANE: Southern Willamette Valley has seen an increase in acreage of winter wheat with a decrease in fescue acreage. With a driving force from corn futures, the price per bushel for wheat has had a steady increase over the last month. Prices were expected to stay strong with current prices reaching \$8.00 per bushel. Wet soil prevented tillage. Grass seed and pastures were fertilized as conditions allowed. Wheat had very high septoria and rust pressure, and was being treated with fungicides. First applications of plant growth regulator on grass seed crops began, as well as fungicide to control leaf spot and mildew. Peaches, cherries and Asian pears were in full bloom with some concern about good pollination. Blueberries were about to bloom and strawberries had flowers showing. Garlic was doing very well. Little to no freeze damage reported.

MARION: Rains continued to hamper needed sprays in grass seed and grain crop fields. Winter wheat planted in wet areas was looking stressed. Stripe rust in wheat fields continued to turn up.

WASHINGTON: Many farmers were considering not planting spring wheat this year because planting conditions have been too wet and cold. An alternate crop being considered was field corn. Nurseries were shipping containerized plants; these shipments have been delayed with a lack of demand from retailers due to cold and wet weather conditions. Berry crops were two weeks behind normal growth for this time of year. Fertilization and weed control continued. Legumes were growing well. Gravenstein apples were leafing out, and prunes were in full bloom. Little planting was done for vegetables, still too cold and wet. Livestock were holding well on supplemental feeding. High temperature was 52.8 degrees, and the low was 31.7 degrees, with 2.25 inches of precipitation.

YAMHILL: Grass fields were being sprayed this last week. Trees were flowering. Some burning of orchard waste continued. Continuing rainfall was making it difficult for orchardists to apply plant protection materials in a timely manner. Some fertilizer was sprayed early in the week. Water saturated soils made it difficult to use equipment in orchards without creating compaction and rutting on the orchard floor. Some no till drilling of crops was accomplished early in the week. There were reports of slug and vole damage to grass and clover fields. Heavy rains and hail were spotty towards the end of the week. There was at least one report of hail damage to early bloom of sweet cherries. Since early apples and some pears were in bloom, there may have been some damage to those crops as well.

Eastern Oregon

GRANT: Cold temperatures and wet days have prevented field work and have slowed grass growth so that cows are going to be late getting turned out.

HARNEY: Cool, wet conditions continued to impede fieldwork. Many livestock producers were still anxiously waiting for the range to become ready for turnout. Surface irrigation water was being spread over flood irrigated hay meadows.

HOOD RIVER: Cool, wet conditions prevailed through the week, slowing orchard crop bud development. Temperatures dipped the morning of April 12, but remained above critical levels for orchard crops. At week's end, crop development in the lower Hood River Valley was as follows: d'Anjou pear at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 4 to 6); Red Delicious apple at half-inch green to tight cluster (WSU stages 3&4); Bing cherry at first white to first bloom (WSU stages 6&7); Pinot noir grape at Eichhorn-Lorenz stages 1-3.

KLAMATH: More rain during the week. Some spring work continued but rain hampered any activity on Friday and Saturday. There were .3 inches of precipitation reported for Friday and Saturday combined. There was no need for irrigation yet.

LAKE: Received good amount of precipitation towards the end of the week. Pastures conditions continue to improve.

MALHEUR: Weather was still cooler than normal although a few days got up to 60 degrees for high temperatures. Low temperatures were 30 to 45 degrees. Scattered showers brought 1/3 to 1/2 inch of rain depending on location. Grain, onion, and sugar beet planting started on select fields. Range grass growth was still slow.

SHERMAN: Suitable days for farming varied by the hour as a series of sunshine, snow storms, rain, hail, and sleet passed through several times per day. The wind put a halt to spraying. Crops were looking good, but some fungicide applications were made more for insurance purposes than for disease purposes.

UNION: Cold temperatures continued, with drier conditions early in the week, and good rainfall towards the end of the week.

WALLOWA: Not much change from last week, still wet and cold.

WASCO: Sweet cherry bloom is very late again this year. They were just starting to bloom but the weather has been cool and cloudy. The forecast for next week shows an improvement. Winter damage, in The Dalles area on flower primordial, appeared to be light. Flower primordia per bud was low to moderate. Clouds and cooler temperatures were the norm. Higher elevations had some very cold mornings.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: April 17, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria	32	52	45	-4	-	-7	1.98	0.89	5	72.35	15.57	127	164
Bandon ⁸	33	58	47	-3	3	-5	1.70	0.67	5	49.87	-1.83	96	153
Crescent City	35	57	49	-2	7	-14	4.09	3.03	5	57.41	-0.59	99	123
Florence	31	52	45	-5	-	-13	3.28	2.03	6	69.35	3.20	105	161
North Bend	34	57	48	-2	2	-12	2.36	1.26	6	43.03	-12.69	77	112
Tillamook	32	55	47	-2	-	-7	3.96	2.55	5	69.77	-5.62	93	149
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	32	55	47	-4	-	-14	1.81	1.17	5	44.30	9.81	128	151
Corvallis	31	56	47	-3	1	-13	1.38	0.79	5	38.26	1.08	103	151
Detroit Lake ⁸	33	55	42	-2	-	-7	3.65	2.63	5	88.61	30.41	152	155
Eugene	32	57	48	-3	4	-16	1.51	0.78	6	33.87	-9.20	79	121
Hillsboro	29	55	46	-5	2	-12	1.37	0.87	5	34.46	2.28	107	140
McMinnville	30	55	46	-4	2	-14	1.81	1.23	5	39.02	0.88	102	140
Portland	33	57	47	-4	2	-19	1.95	1.39	6	40.87	10.76	136	138
Salem	31	56	48	-2	4	-10	1.41	0.85	7	40.69	6.98	121	135
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	30	63	49	-4	7	-24	0.62	0.20	5	35.31	7.32	126	114
Medford	31	63	50	-1	12	-14	0.55	0.27	4	17.47	1.41	109	89
Roseburg	32	60	50	-2	11	-16	1.23	0.70	6	31.01	2.49	109	124
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	24	60	43	-2	-	-7	0.58	0.29	5	13.73	3.59	135	102
Echo ⁸	27	65	47	-5	6	-19	0.41	0.26	3	10.10	3.12	145	95
Heppner	28	62	46	-3	1	-13	1.08	0.80	5	12.24	2.27	123	100
Hermiston	23	66	47	-4	9	-16	0.47	0.32	5	10.39	3.41	149	91
Madras ⁸	21	62	44	-4	2	-12	0.06	-0.09	1	8.60	0.97	113	85
Moro	24	59	43	-4	-	-8	0.53	0.32	2	12.03	3.32	138	79
Parkdale ⁸	28	56	42	-7	-	-18	1.84	1.45	5	41.95	14.20	151	135
Pendleton	27	60	46	-5	3	-18	0.55	0.30	6	13.18	4.06	145	100
Prairie City ⁸	21	62	44	-4	2	-12	0.06	-0.09	1	8.60	0.97	113	85
The Dalles	31	62	49	+2	5	-9	0.49	0.28	2	11.54	1.36	113	95
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	30	56	43	+2	2	-5	0.81	0.60	3	15.44	2.51	119	85
Bend	19	59	40	-4	-	-7	0.12	-0.02	1	5.71	-3.03	65	43
Burns	26	60	41	-2	-	-7	0.33	0.19	4	10.92	4.10	160	92
Christmas Valley ⁸	12	62	40	-6	1	-13	0.15	0.01	4	7.76	-1.24	86	95
Klamath Falls	22	59	42	-2	1	-7	0.44	0.26	3	8.77	-1.96	82	65
Klamath Falls ⁸	24	60	42	-2	2	-6	0.40	0.22	5	10.93	0.20	102	92
Lakeview	21	57	40	-3	-	-7	0.30	0.02	5	12.53	0.91	108	95
Lorella ⁸	22	58	43	-2	1	-7	0.61	0.43	5	11.32	0.59	105	87
Redmond	16	59	42	-3	-	-7	0.07	-0.06	3	8.30	2.42	141	68
Worden ⁸	26	60	43	-2	2	-6	0.38	0.20	5	10.41	-0.32	97	79
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	22	59	42	-4	-	-7	0.35	0.17	6	8.17	1.85	129	87
Joseph	23	53	38	-3	-	-7	0.18	-0.24	4	10.14	-8.22	55	92
La Grande	25	57	44	-3	-	-14	0.94	0.60	5	10.10	-2.18	82	94
Union	25	58	43	-4	-	-13	0.84	0.56	7	13.81	5.34	163	109
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	29	66	48	-3	6	-21	0.12	-0.02	2	8.95	1.62	122	72
Rome	22	64	44	-3	4	-10	0.21	0.07	1	9.31	4.18	181	67

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.